

Bobcat Bulletin

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Principal's Message

As we begin the new year, many times we reflect upon all that has occurred throughout the year and make goals for the future. First and foremost, I am extremely proud of our students, staff, and community for all their hard work to make our school a success. We have much to be proud of...Delmar Elementary recently received a 4-star rating from the state of Maryland. This rating is based upon the academic success of our 3rd and 4th grade students in reading and math, along with high scores for daily attendance, and the success of our non-English speaking students. Although we received high marks in these areas, we always want to continue to grow and improve as our targeted goals continue to rise. We will never be satisfied until we are the top achieving school in Wicomico County and the state.

Another goal for this year has been to expose our students to activities beyond the classroom. We are extremely proud of the service our Singing Bobcats have done by participating in the recent Delmar Christmas Parade, and singing at local nursing homes and St. Stephens United Methodist Church. Also, our SGA has conducted 2 very successful community service campaigns by collecting pajamas and canned food items for the less fortunate and recently sold pencil grams to spread holiday cheer to fellow students and staff members. Finally, many of our boys and girls participate in girl scouts or boy scouts and are activity engaged in several personal growth activities and community events.

The new year is a wonderful time to reassess current habits and adjust our goals for positive outcomes. Please take the time now to reevaluate bedtimes, homework routines, and starting each day with a good breakfast. Data shows us that good habits and routines in these areas increase student potential and productivity. Consistency is key . . . so, let's get a jump start on being the best that we can be by reassessing what areas need to be improved upon. Reassuring that good habits are in place and practiced while school is in session will help our little ones start the New Year off right.

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Bobcats of the Month--December

Congratulations to the following students for being selected as Bobcats of the Month for November. We are proud of you!!!

Morton AM	Jonah Ford	Clark	Yamose Alazy
Morton PM	Kaison Walton	Hudson	Isaiah Jones
Pedri AM	Madelyn Persinger	Malone	Anisa Jolley
Pedri PM	Sadie Lecates	Melvin	Kennedi Hammerer
		Palmer	Nicholas Wallace
Adams	Finley Minor	Short	Hakim Savage
Chew	Bivasha Strestha	Stein	Jeremiah Purnell
Coleman	Weston Chew		
Hall	Riley Medford		
Minor	Hailee Phillips	Allen	Andrew Lankford
Mosier	Nehemiah St. Surin	Bowden	Kyleigh McIntyre
Scott	Reagan Tull	Handley	Liliana Lomax
		Sandlin	Lily Fleetwood
Beebe	Cecelia Moore	Shiles	Drew Lopez
Campbell	Nathan Martinson	Sowell	Robert Hollada
Cuffy	Alanna Burke	Throm	Janiya Thelusma
Douglas	Josie Burt		
Hurst	Olivia Gattis		
Mason	Kameryn Mallory		
Thornton	Layla Ugalde		
Alexander	Saliah Hinton		
Barlow	Michael Blackburn		
Littleton	Paxton Taylor		
Mallory	Natalia Martinez-Leon		
McCain	Ridhima Chatterjee		
Schrlau	Abigail Brasure		
Wilkinson	Chloe King		



Student Government Association (SGA)

The SGA wants to thank everyone that bought a pencil for our pencil drive. We have enjoyed bringing some holiday smiles to everyone. The Pajama Drive was also a huge success. We collected over 60 pairs of pajamas!! We can't thank all our Bobcat Families enough for their generous donations.

Delmar Elementary Chorus

Congratulations to all students involved in either of our Winter programs. Thank you to all the parents and guardians who helped and to Mrs. Rush and Mr. Oltmann for their hard work. Congratulations also to the Singing Bobcat Chorus for their great holiday season! All students have brought much entertainment and joy to all who attended any of our Winter events this year.

Renovation Update

December 20th was a very busy day at Delmar Elementary School with the transition to our next phase of our renovation project. Grade 1 teachers began preparations to move into their newly renovated classrooms or offices and our upstairs classrooms and staff transitioned into the large portable building.

During the winter break, phase 4 of the project will begin with the demolition of our upstairs classrooms. This project will continue through the end of the school year.

Please feel free to stop to see our new classrooms and visit the locations of rooms that have been temporarily relocated.

Special Dates January

- January 3 School Opens for students
- January 3 PTA Joe Corbi's Pizza Sale Begins
- January 20 Dr. Martin Luther Jr. Day—Closed
- January 24 End of 2nd Marking Term
- January 27 Professional Day—school closed for students



Nurse's Niche

Vision and Hearing Screening:

Letters for failing our vision screening back in November have been mailed home. If you received one from us, please let us know what the results were for your child when you took them to an eye doctor. And if you are having difficulty getting them to an appointment or purchasing glasses because of finances, please contact our office.

Flu Season

I know my articles seem like a broken record – repeating themselves – but as we approach flu season, please be sure to remind your child that hand washing has been proven to be one of the most effective ways to avoid getting the flu. If your child has a chronic condition such as asthma and has not received a flu shot yet, please ask your pediatrician if it's possible to still receive a flu shot. It's not too late to get one in December. And, if your child has a fever of over 100, he/she will be sent home from school! You will be asked to keep your child home until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the help of Advil or Tylenol. If your child gets sick in the middle of the night, please don't send them to school the next morning. Please allow your child to rest at home to recover. Rest is an important key to getting rid of the flu!!!! Please also remember that if your child is going to return to school with medication:

- **All prescription medications require a doctor's order.**
- **All over the counter medications require a doctor's order as well.**
- **I DO not keep Advil and Tylenol in my office to give out to students. It is against local policy for school nurses to dispense Tylenol or Advil in their office without a doctor's order form**
- **ANYTHING that has an 'active ingredient' in it needs to have a doctor's order and this includes cough drops, chapstick, etc.**
 - **Check your chapstick/lip balms. Some do have an active ingredient and others don't. If there is no 'active ingredient' listed, then it is permissible to carry the lip balm on the child and apply as needed.**
- **Please feel free to stop by my office and pick up a blank copy of one before you go to the doctor's office.**
- **An adult MUST bring ALL meds into the school. Students are not permitted to carry ANY medications to and from school!!!!**

Nutrition

Please talk with your children about the importance of eating a well-balanced meal at breakfast and lunch while here. Foods rich in protein such as meats and eggs consumed with vegetables are healthier choices than chips and cookies!

With all of the excitement of the holidays approaching, Christmas cookies, turkeys, and numerous holiday foods become a part of our menus at home. Please remind your children to eat in moderation and make a commitment to some regular exercise. The combination together can usually avoid putting on extra pounds at Christmas. The average person gains 1 to 2 pounds during the holidays. We can avoid this by just taking an extra 20 to 30-minute walk or if it's too cold to walk, an extra 20 to 30-minute time period on an exercise bike is just as beneficial. Exercise is recommended at least 3 times a week.

And from Mrs. Burks and myself...
Have a Happy and Healthy Holiday!



Our Character Corner

Holiday Stress and Anxiety in Children

How to avoid child anxiety and holiday stress during the busy holiday season

The holidays are a fun and joyous time, but also a very busy one, and holiday stress and anxiety in children is a common occurrence. During the holidays, there are lots of fun activities and events going on, both at home and at school. And while that can be a good thing, the reality is that all that hustle and bustle means schedules are often out of whack, bedtimes get pushed back, and routines are disrupted. As a result, it's inevitable that kids may feel some degree of holiday stress.

Holiday Stress and Anxiety in Children: How Parents Can Help

- **Set a calm example.** The most important way parents can help ease anxiety in children during the holidays is by trying to keep things relaxed as much as possible.
- **Set up conditions for good behavior.** Avoid taking your child to places such as the mall or holiday gatherings when he is hungry or tired.
- **Remember the importance of routines.** The holidays can throw a big wrench into household routines, and that can play a role in anxiety in children.
- **Watch what they are eating.** Another thing that can fall by the wayside amidst the holiday hubbub is healthy eating.
- **Get your child moving.** Fresh air and exercise are essential for boosting mood and re-setting the spirit, which can alleviate holiday stress and anxiety in children. Make sure you schedule some time to get your child outside to run around and play.
- **Avoid overscheduling.** As tempting as it may be to accept every invitation from friends and family, try to limit your holiday parties and activities so that you and your child are not overwhelmed.
- **Have your grade-schooler help you.** Big kids love to help mom and dad, especially if they get lots of praise for being responsible and helpful.
- **Schedule some quiet time.** Having some peace and quiet with your child is more important than ever during the busy holiday season.
- **Remind your child -- and yourself -- what the holidays are really all about.** A great antidote for holiday stress and the bloated commercialism of the season is helping others.

By Katherine Lee

<http://childparenting.about.com/od/healthsafety/a/holidaystresskids.htm>

Determination:

Being intent of achieving a goal

Grade Levels at A Glance

Pre-Kindergarten:

Happy New Year! This month we start a new theme called, "How Structures are Built". In addition, we will continue to learn more sight words, letters of the alphabet, the sounds they make, and how to write them correctly. For math, we will be working on shapes and numbers to 10. We will build addition facts, identify, count and practice writing the numbers correctly. Please ensure that you are working with your child daily on letters and letter sounds and that you are also using the Bedtime in a Box kit provided in December to reinforce Reading, Math, and Writing skills. Thank you for your continued support!

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten students had the opportunity to visit Stephen Decatur High School to see the play "Hansel Und Grethel" in December. The students thoroughly enjoyed this theater experience!

In reading, students will continue to explore a variety of text to help increase student comprehension. When reading stories at home, it is encouraged to ask questions about the characters, settings, problem and solution. Students will continue to master letter recognition, identify beginning and ending sounds, identify rhyming words, blend short vowel words, and practice writing their first name and last name correctly. Please focus on all letters and their sounds to help increase their proficiency.

In math, students will continue to work on several different concepts using learned strategies. We will explore different ways of composing and decomposing numbers to 10. Students will also count, recognize, and represent numbers 10 – 19. Please continue to review and identify attributes of 2D shapes.

Second Grade:

We're excited to start 2019 with fun and engaging activities for our students! We will be finishing our non-fiction unit during both reading and writing and starting opinion writing when we return. During writing workshop, students will be creating informative essays that explain something they like and why they like it. They will have to give lots of reasons and write across many pages in describing their opinion.

Please continue to support your child in reading at home with their monthly reading incentive. Students should be recording their minutes read each night.

In our math instruction, we are continuing to make great strides with our addition and subtraction strategies. Students are eager to start our new unit on telling time and place value. Our daily instruction also includes solving word problems, counting money, and fact fluency. Please encourage your child to complete their math homework assignment each week.

With the new year, comes new school supplies! Please make sure your child has a fresh supply of school materials such as pencils, erasers, crayons, glue sticks, dry erase markers, and scissors. Any donations of tissues and Clorox wipes would be greatly appreciated! Once again, thank you for all that you do for our students.

Third Grade:

Happy New Year! We hope everyone is rested and rejuvenated for 2020! We are looking forward to a great second half of the 3rd grade school year!

In reading, third grade students will be exploring different genres and characteristics to differentiate between fiction and non-fiction styles of text. We will also be reading different fables and folktales. Remember that reading incentive is also due each month! The reading goal for January is 260 minutes, and the completed chart is due on Tuesday, February 4th! Happy reading!!

In math we will wrap up Unit 4 and begin Unit 5: Fractions and Multiplication Strategies. In this unit, we will build on earlier experiences and continue to partition shapes and recognize fractions as equal parts of a whole. Students will be formally introduced to standard notation for fractions and explore the relationship between the numerator and the denominator. Students will also continue to develop multiplication strategies and work with properties of multiplication. Look for the Unit 5 Family Letter coming home soon in your child's Friday Folder for Do-Anytime Activities you can complete with your child at home. Additionally, we will be taking our second math interim assessment on January 22nd. **Please remember to continue practicing your multiplication and division facts at home to help with fact fluency as well as tasks as on ST Math.**

We will launch our new science unit about animals along with their habitat, adaptations and life cycles. We will also be welcoming our first classroom pets this month! Have your child be on the lookout to tell you all about them!

In Social Studies, students will read non-fiction text and discuss the tradition of making New Year's resolutions as well as the ways different cultures celebrate the new year.

Looking ahead... We have an exciting field trips coming up in February to Port Discovery Children's Museum in Baltimore and the Rock n Roll Revival at James M. Bennett High School. Permission slips will be coming home soon in your child's Friday Folder!

Fourth Grade:

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday break and are ready to roll into 2020 energized and eager to learn.

January brings a new unit in math. We will begin multiplying with larger numbers (and, yes, the "old school way" is fine). It is imperative that all students know their multiplication facts fluently. Merriam-Webster defines fluently as "effortlessly smooth and flowing". Parents can help their child learn them by practicing around the house, when riding in the car, and even playing games. Make it fun for our 4th graders to know them. Just a reminder, our Everyday Math series has computer games that will guide them in learning. Your child has a log-in and has been on the website. Knowing their facts will make them more confident when it comes time to multiply larger numbers and division later.

In reading and writing we will be focusing on personal and persuasive text. Students will be analyzing context clues, looking at author's purpose, and focusing on persuasive strategies. We will begin our opinion writing unit. Students are encouraged to read 375 minutes for the month of January. Please mark their calendar so they can receive credit for meeting their goal.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Delmar Bobcats PTA, Inc.



Happy New Year Bobcats! Thank you to all parents and teachers who have joined PTA! We have several events scheduled for our Bobcat Families for winter/spring 2020.

December was a successful month for the PTA! We held our first Penguin Patch Shopper's Fair where students were given an opportunity to shop for gifts for their family members. The next PTA meeting will be held in February at Pastries with Parents. It will consist of a brief update as people come in and eat breakfast.

Delmar Bobcats PTA Inc. is also starting the search for officers for 2020-2021 school year! Although we can each serve two terms in the same position, we believe our PTA will be more successful if we have one or two new officers each year so that there are always fresh ideas and experienced officers serving. Specifically, for the 2020-2021 school year, we must elect a new President and Secretary. Please let us know if you are interested in serving as an officer, so we can share the roles and responsibilities with you. We also need a few volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. The nominating committee meets once or twice to develop the slate of officers for election at the April meeting. For more information, please message us with Facebook @delmarbobcatspta or email: delmarbobcatspta@gmail.com.

Thank you for assisting Delmar Elementary PTA in supporting our Bobcats!

Upcoming Events:

January - Joe Corbis Fundraiser

February 14 - Pastries with Parents & PTA meeting

Sincerely,

Your PTA Officers

